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Nuclear Science Division

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NUCLEAR SCIENCE DIVISION

The division has a special interest in Nuclear Science and in advanced energy systems such as nuclear, solar, wind, geothermal, and tidal. Its concern in these fields includes, but is not limited to, research, policy and analysis, development and production.

FROM THE CHAIR

VICTORIA REICH



I wish that all of you could have made it to Cincinnati. We had two wonderful programs due to the efforts of Diane Mirvis, last year's Chair, whom I cannot thank enough.

Diane's energy, dedication, and true professionalism show through in all she does. She also imbues those around her with the same energy levels. I never feel quite so alive as when I am with Diane. She has been a wonderful mentor to me and left me quite a legacy to live up to.

CINCINNATI CONFERENCE

This was the busiest conference that I have ever had. It started at a 7:30 breakfast meeting on Sunday and went, nonstop it seemed, to our field trip on Thursday. On the way, I did some new things, met a lot of new people, and was exposed to many new ideas about how we can do our jobs better.

The division had a very active year, sponsoring three sessions and a field trip, and all of them were excellent. Our first open session, on organizational positioning, was chosen for taping, and I

am ordering a copy for the division tape library. Diane Mirvis, who was one of the presenters, has copies of her handouts and will send them on request. On Wednesday we had another great session on electronic publishing. The speakers had a variety of perspectives on the field. Both sessions were booked into the largest rooms available, and both had several hundred people attend, many staying through the entire session, a real tribute to the speakers and organizers.

My personal favorite was our roundtable; it also seems to have been with others. What was supposed to have been over at 3:30 lasted until well after 5:00. We had tea in the hospitality suite, exchanged background about our jobs, discussed problems, and spent the entire afternoon getting to know each other. We plan to do the same thing in Atlanta, and I would hope that all of you could be there. For those of you who can't, please take thirty minutes to an hour to write up a brief description of your library and send it to our *Sci-Tech News* reporter. It is so much easier to pick up the telephone and call someone you know, even through an article. I joined the division to get to know the other librarians working with nuclear science, and, from what I have heard from you, most of you did too.

Our field trip to Information Dimensions and OCLC was very

informative. I have to admit it is the first field trip I've ever taken, but I couldn't not go to OCLC. I've been using them since 1980 and wanted to meet some of the faces behind all of the help I've gotten over the years. Did you know that their technical assistance unit tracks the time they take to answer your call? They try for under 40 seconds, and television monitors keep track of their time for the last 10 calls and for the day. And did you know that they did not get a single call during the five minutes my tour group was there? They were amazed and so were we.

Information Dimensions gave us a tour of their lovely facilities and a brief demo of their new Windows application. My thanks to both of them for the time they and their staff took with us and, also, for the great lunch at OCLC. The burgers and sausage were wonderful, but the cookies were divine.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEYS AND ATLANTA

We had an almost fifty percent response to the membership survey by conference time; you were really great. Your new membership directories will reflect some of the information we gathered in the surveys. If you have not responded, please take a few minutes to find your form, fill it out, and send it in. Much of the information will appear in the new membership directories that the Faxon Company had generously offered to print for us.

I did rely on the survey responses in planning next year's program. We plan to co-sponsor sessions on running a small technical library aimed at a surprisingly large percent of respondents. We are

looking for suggestions for one or two speakers who are using resources effectively or who are using unusual methods. And for keeping up with technology, there will be a jointly sponsored session on integrated technologies. The Roundtable will complete our sessions, but we will be one of the cosponsors of the reception at the High Museum, which promises to be one of the more popular evening events.

Please start planning for next year. Remember, we all need training and networking to keep up with what's going on in the field. For me at least, SLA packs more information in four or five days than I can hope to use in the next year. No kidding. I still have two projects from San Francisco on my pending shelf.

AUDIO TAPED CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Don't forget that tapes of sessions from the last three conferences are available for division members to borrow. As a reminder for us all, I'll include a list of the tapes available with borrowing information in the next issue. So if you didn't get to a conference or couldn't get into sessions, you can still hear what was said.

I know that this is getting long, but I still have four thank you's to make. First to our sponsors, without whom we could not have had such a productive conference. If you are in contact with any of the following: Information Dimensions, Dialog Information Services and/or the American Nuclear Society, please let them know how much we appreciate their support.

Second, to Betsy Schwartz, who has done a magnificent job for the division this year, not only as newsletter reporter,

but also in providing many other services from Internet consultant to handout lugger. Thank you, Betsy.

Third to the other division officers, who spent much of their conference assisting me with Nuclear Sciences affairs. I am especially indebted to Mary Jo Dorsey, who would be at my beck and call from 7:30 am till late evening and then would ask if she could do something more. Thank you all.

Finally—trite but in this case very true—I have to thank you, the members. You have given this division a clear mandate—to continue as a division, and to provide specific services to members. Many of you have offered your services and I intend to take you up on your offers. Starting now.

As Betsy will not be able to continue as newsletter reporter next year, I need one or two of you to take over this job. If we can get two editors you can handle two issues each. It's a great way to get to know the membership, without going to the conferences. Please give me a call, or a fax (703) 235-4495, or email on Internet at NWTRB@GMUVAX.GMU.EDU.

OFFICERS

The officers for 1993-1994 are:

Chair: Victoria (Vicki) Reich

(703) 235-4473

NWTRB@GMUVAX.GMU.EDU

Chair-Elect: Mary Jo Dorsey

(702) 794-7537

DORSEY@YMPV5.YMP.GOV

Secretary: Joan Tuss

(708) 252-4936

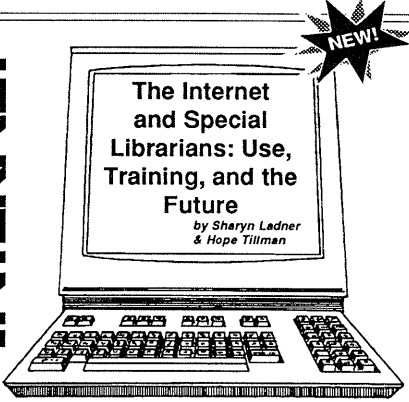
JTUSS@ANL.GOV

Treasurer: Juanna Shin

(415) 422-5837

Feel free to contact me or any of the others with your ideas for programs, newsletter features or anything else you think would be useful to the division.

INTERNET



**The Internet
and Special
Librarians: Use,
Training, and the
Future**
*by Sharyn Ladner
& Hope Tillman*

This new publication from SLA, based on a recent study of the Internet and special librarians, is an extensive analysis of the impact of the Internet, how it is being used by special librarians, and how it is changing the profession. An Internet tutorial is provided along with a glossary of terms, index, and a list of Internet access providers. 215pp. \$33.00, SLA Members: \$26.50 Shipping/Handling: add \$5 plus 5% of subtotal.

Send orders to SLA Book Order Dept., 1700 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009-2508. Tel (202) 234-4700; Fax (202) 265-9317. MC & VISA Accepted. All orders under \$50 must be prepaid.

On Becoming a Seasoned "SLA-er"
Mary Jo Dorsey, Technical Librarian II
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Attendance at my third Special Libraries Association annual conference has added yet another dimension to my expanding career track. When I was asked to consider the chair-elect position for the Nuclear Science division, I was thrilled, yet petrified. I knew very little about what the job entailed, let alone SLA's conformance to *Robert's Rules* and strict parliamentary procedures! However, after spending a few days with some seasoned SLA-ers, I began to feel like I just might be able to fit in to this organization and actually have something to contribute. Allow me to reflect just a bit about what this process was like.

Early Sunday morning, one day before the official kick-off of events, all present and in-coming Division and Chapter officers met with the SLA Board of Directors for what is called DACOLT - or Division and Chapter Officers Leadership Training. This was the follow-up session that wrapped up the initial DACOLT held at mid-winter conference. It was my initial chance to get my feet wet, meet other visionaries, and interact with the Nuclear Science Division's sister divisions. We were introduced to everything from parliamentary procedure to the great importance of meeting the set deadlines throughout the SLA annual calendar. This year, we also had a special session on fund raising and marketing our respective divisions.

I was becoming enthused, and since my westernly acclimated body had succumbed to the damp Eastern climate with a cold, I decided to spend Sunday evening snugly in my hotel room reviewing the responses to the recent survey conducted of our members. This was a great chance for me to get to know some of you and get a feel for your working environments as well as your interests in our division. I will discuss the results of that survey shortly.

The next morning, before the birds were singing, the Nuclear Science Division executive board was having breakfast, making last minute updates and plans for the next four days of activity. I sat this year basically as a silent observer trying to absorb just exactly what was happening with the fury of events about to begin.

At the noon hour, I am pleased to say that the majority of Nuclear Science Division members visiting Cincinnati attended the annual business meeting and luncheon. This year's luncheon was graciously partially funded by Dialog Information Services and Information Dimensions, Inc, and covered half of the cost of our lunch. I've learned how important it is to recognize our sponsors, and I encourage all of us to be aware of their support.

On Tuesday, our division sponsored two strategic events. First, we heard three successful professionals sharing their strategies for success. Diane Mirvis, our past chair, dynamically presented her affiliation and accomplishments with Brookhaven National Laboratory's Technical Information Division. Diane addressed a very large audience of

approximately 200 at this integral Nuclear Science Division function.

Later that afternoon, we all kicked back and enjoyed a roundtable discussion in our division hospitality suite. If I was forced to choose a favorite session, I would have to say that it was our roundtable. Intended initially as a one and a half hour session, we found ourselves winding up the afternoon some four and one-half hours later. This was our chance to talk at our leisure about our own libraries or information centers, and basically, it was time for us to get to know one another and see what other kinds of nuclear industry are represented in our division. I hope that you in attendance found our show-and-tell experience as helpful as I did. For those of you who could not attend, I encourage you to offer to the division newsletter a brief biography of your information center. Let us and those others who do not get to attend the conferences get to know you. After all, we are a networking team.

Straight from our four-hour-plus roundtable, with barely a minute to spare, the current chair, chair-elect, and I rushed to the annual Division Cabinet Meeting. This is each division's "last chance" to present concerns, problems, or proposals personally before the Board of Directors. The Board also addresses division leaders with the latest information from the most recent board meeting. Immediately after this was the Division-Chapter Joint Cabinet meeting. An enormous room of our leaders was briefed on annual budget concerns and next year's events.

This year, the Nuclear Science Division had a unique opportunity. We sponsored a major session on electronic publishing. This well-received event

received close to 200 attendees on a Wednesday afternoon, which is, by all means, quite a success. We heard four panelists discuss first hand practical experience with some of the latest technology in our arena.

What did I learn from this year's conference? I saw and experienced a variety of things. Not only was I able to attend some of the most appropriately targeted sessions for our profession, but, I threw my hat into the proverbial ring for up and coming Nuclear Science Division affairs. Although some of us may have been disappointed by a marked decrease in exhibits and attendance this year, I still left Cincinnati with highly favorable feelings for a blockbuster year ahead. The responses from our recent survey of division members shows that although time restraint is a big factor inhibiting your participation in division activities, many of you would like to be involved in some way. I encourage newsletter contributions. It is a great way to market your work throughout our industry, also your experiences may really inspire or help one of us in some way. We are still looking for some motivated individual to serve as newsletter reporter for the next year. Contact Betsy Schwartz at Brookhaven for more details.

If I could sum it all up in just a few brief sentences or words, I would have to say that only an experienced chef creates the most delectable entree. Add one week with some extremely motivated people and place it in an environment that lends not only challenge but opportunity, and I think one will find that these are just the right ingredients necessary for a properly seasoned SLA-er!

FROM THE DIVISION'S REPORTER: Betsy Schwartz

To culminate my year as being the Nuclear Science Division's Reporter, I attended my first SLA conference in Cincinnati. I very much enjoyed meeting all the contributors to this year's newsletter. I found the conference to be very worthwhile, most notably the sessions sponsored by our Division. Many thanks to those folks who helped to pass out materials at our sessions. As Mary Jo will attest to in her article, our sessions were some of the best attended at the conference.

At the annual business luncheon, I summarized the Division's newsletter activity for the previous year. We, as a Division, have much to be proud of, regarding our newsletter. The number of articles grew with each issue as I heard from more and more members each

month. Three new features were incorporated into the newsletter, and I hope my successor will continue them in the coming year. The first feature was to have an article containing a bibliography in an area that would aid us in our day-to-day work or help us adapt to new arenas like the Internet (see the November issue on multimedia). Second, each issue included conferences or workshops contributors had attended. Finally, I tried to include a profile of a library so everyone could get acquainted.

If you have not filled out your membership survey, please do it ASAP. Fax it to me at 516-282-2090 or email at bjs@bnl.gov. The window of opportunity to be included in this year's Nuclear Science Division's membership directory is waning fast, so please fax your information right away.

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